

National Smooth Dancers
Dance Whispers
December 2015



San Fernando Valley Chapter

October 2015 Dance Recap: The momentum and confidence we all achieved from our convention experience was still fresh at our **Harvest Moon** dance.

And what a great Harvest Moon Dance we had! Our attendance was terrific - I now believe that it doesn't matter the season – winter, spring, summer or fall - the lure of dance from the music, the rhythm, movement, and the art is what we as dancers yearn for.

Our very own Mark Emanuelli was host DJ. Mark created a great Harvest Moon playlist mix with his always classy vibe. Dance pro, local instructor and actor Brian Fortuna, also a former Dancing with the Stars cast member, gave our dance enthusiasts the opportunity to move their feet and their hips with a lively Cha Cha lesson.

A special announcement was made honoring all our convention Shining Stars, with special recognition given to Bill Steeber, the NSD 2015 **Gavel Club Award** winner, and the acknowledgement that SFV has been honored with two previous winners: Barbara Greenlaw in 2013 and Joan

edited by Rachel Seward



Robinson in 2014. We are all very proud of these wonderful SFV chapter members who have contributed so much to our chapter and to NSD.

Acknowledgement was also given to our convention competition winners and showcase performers who were in attendance. Each made a brief dancing entry onto and off the floor as their names were announced.

The Harvest Moon shined bright on all of these chapter stars!

Our chapter's goal of having more friendships made at each of our dances and to give our dancers a fun evening was well accomplished!

We must keep on dancing!



Queen's Reflections

San Fernando Valley Smooth Dancers' Coronation Story!



Queen Leanne Wong

A *coronation* is the ceremony when a new Queen (or King, let's not be sexist) is officially installed and is usually quite glitzy and full of grandeur.

As the shining tiara was placed on her head, Queen Leanne said, "This is the greatest feeling in the whole world. This has been a complete bonding experience for everyone

and it's been so exciting." And just like that, a new chapter began in the San Fernando Valley Smooth Dancers' book!

November is always the start of an exciting season, as it is the month of the queen's coronation. It is a time for the women to sparkle and look beautiful in their dressy dresses and for the men to dress up and look handsome. This year the coronation theme was "Dancing in the Moonlight" and the setting was "The Glen Arden Club."

The ballroom was aglow with sparkling purple globes adorned with fresh flowers. Guests were ushered to their seats, and then the reigning queens in their dazzling white gowns, gloves, and tiaras were escorted into the ballroom, dancing a foxtrot to "Moon Glow." With the Royal Court now assembled, it was time for Queen-Elect Leanne Wong's entrance, and she and her husband, John, danced in to take their places among the Court.

After the crowning ceremony, Mark introduced the new Queen saying, "Now taking the floor to start the coronation ball with the first dance of the night is **Queen Leanne** and her husband." The music began, and Queen Leanne, dressed in a royal purple goddess type gown with flowing sleeves, danced a perfect foxtrot to "Moon Dance" by Van Morrison.

It was only moments later that our emcee announced the honor dance performed by Bobbi Mapstone and Greg Checketts, who danced a Bolero to "Contigo en la Distancia" by Eydie Gorme in honor of Queen Leanne. Their dance was lovely and graceful.

The Queens' Waltz first included the reigning queens, then former queens, and eventually all present were invited to join them on the dance floor. After the ceremony ended, there was general dancing, including a mixer, before dinner was served.

After dinner more general dancing and mixers followed. DJ Mark managed to fit into his playlist the favorite songs of each

of the Queens – a special touch that reflected the outstanding effort that he always demonstrates in his contributions to our coronations. The presence of five dance hosts contributed greatly to the evening's success and everyone's enjoyment.

Later in the evening the professional show dance scored perfect marks from the Queen and her guests. Natalia Lind and Michael Kuka (joined briefly by Joan Robinson, a past Queen) performed two spectacular routines to "Moonlight Serenade" and "Caravan."

As part of the evening's farewell and last dance announcement, DJ Mark stated, "This was a 24 carat evening" and gave thanks to co-host and DJ Jane Hammond.

This wonderful event was preceded by a lovely reception and followed by a Farewell Breakfast the next morning. DJ Mark Emanuelli's playlist of the queens' favorite songs welcomed those attending. During the breakfast outgoing Queen Andrea and Queen Leanne each gave brief speeches of thanks and appreciation. In keeping with a tradition set a year ago, Andrea presented a plaque to Leanne's husband John with words of wisdom: "*WHEN THE QUEEN IS HAPPY, THERE IS PEACE IN THE KINGDOM*". Thus the prior chapter ended in the San Fernando Valley Smooth Dancers' book making way for this new chapter starring Queen Leanne.

The End!

We had a great coronation evening and a delightful farewell breakfast. With sincere and warm appreciation, on behalf of SFVSD members, we give thanks to those who supported us with their presence and to everyone on the coronation team, with special thanks to Gee Gee Barden for her leadership and attention to all the special details.

We look forward to a year of fun and friendship as we make every dance unforgettable!

DANCE
to the music
within your heart.
It is then
that you will speak to others,
no words needed,
just dance...
and those who see,
will know you.

Los Angeles Chapter

Introducing Queen-elect Marion Scholtz



Queen-elect Marion Scholtz

I constantly tell my friends how lucky we are to have dancing in our lives. Not only is it so much fun, but we have met so many wonderful people along the way.

I have only had one career in my life and that has been as a court reporter. In court I met and fell in love with Ken, a young lawyer. We married later that year in 1966 and were fortunate to be able to live and work in London, England, for a year before

starting our family. And I still work as a court reporter a couple of days a week.

Our lovely family consists of two sons and a daughter, their spouses and our four-year old grandson, Romey.

For the last several years Ken and I have taught ballroom dancing on cruise ships, which has enabled us to combine our two favorite hobbies, dancing and travel. And we have seen most of the world. We always try to have a unique dance experience wherever we travel. For example, we have ballroom danced in China with the locals, as well as danced in Buenos Aires, Rio de Janeiro, Paris, Berlin and Prague.

I want to thank my wonderful friends in the Los Angeles Chapter for the honor of representing them this year. I am looking forward to a year filled with new friendships and sharing our love of dancing.

-Queen-elect Marion Scholtz



edited by Chuck and Susan Johnson



We had a very fun Halloween party in October with many in costumes and delicious Halloween treats and food provided by Kim Fleck and Patty Rohrer and music by Ken Scholtz and a dance lesson by Michael Chu and decorations by the Johnsons. Thanks to all who participated.



Attending the Black and White Ball were (L-R): Queen Jodene Catterlin, Susan Johnson, Queen Sandy Wells, Debby Ku, Chuck Johnson, Kyle Catterlin, Victor Lee and Tom Wells.



(L-R) Lee Chan and husband Bruce, Betty and Ken Cheung and Michael Chu and Queen-elect Marion Scholtz enjoy a dance at our Black and White Ball.

In November we had our traditional Black and White Ball with black and white roses in black and white vases. Music was by Tom Wells, and the lesson was by Victor Lee. We had 15 guests and three new couples joined the club—Shari and Victor Hershfeld, Craig and Alice Miller, Robert Quan and Frances Solano. Welcome and we look forward to dancing with you.

We are sad to report the passing of a long time member of LANSD Vera Funtsch. She was doing well until she passed October 24 at the age of 98. She had been an active member up to the time she and her husband Andy moved to an assisted living facility.

(Top Left) Kim Fleck and her grandfather Don Russell at the Halloween Dance showing off their inner Roman diets.

(Top Right) Sandy and Tom Wells attended the Halloween Dance sporting a medical theme.

(Bottom Left) Michael Chu and Debby Ku enjoy a dance during the halloween Dance.

(Bottom Right) Queen Jodene and Kyle Catterlin swinging on the dance floor!

San Diego Chapter

edited by Mark Chapman



Introducing SDSD 2016 Queen-Elect Alberta Valentini



Queen-elect Alberta Valentini

I have so much to be thankful for in my life.

I was born and raised in Fairport Harbor, Ohio. It is a small village on Lake Erie east of Cleveland. I have an older sister Marlene and a younger brother Gregory. Probably no one has ever heard of Fairport except Nancy Ross. Nancy lived there for a short while. Growing up in a small town there was not much for young people to do, but we had

“teen club” dance on Wednesday nights, dances at the high school gym, and teen dances at the VFW the next town over on Saturday nights. My girlfriends and I would watch Dick Clark’s Band Stand on TV and practice the dances. I’m giving away my age.

During my first marriage I lived in Arlington Heights, Ill, Greensburg, PA, and Zurich, Switzerland. I feel blessed and thankful that I have four wonderful children (Susan, Jennifer, John and Michael) and four beautiful grandchildren, two son-in-laws and this coming September a daughter-in-law. We are a close and loving family. We try to see each other often and we call each other almost every day.

After my two daughters graduated from college and were on their own I made a life changing decision: I joined my two sons and returned to school. I graduated with a degree in Accounting from St Vincent College in Latrobe, PA.

At that time in my life, I also found out one could take ballroom dance lessons without a partner. If I only had known that many years earlier. As a young girl I always loved watching movies with dancing and beautiful gowns so it was meant to be that I would finally start taking dance classes. The only dance studio was an hour drive from my home. I had to drive to Pittsburgh, PA, to take classes and it was sometimes rough driving in the winter snow storms but I loved the classes.

After I graduated from college I moved to California and took a position in individual tax with PriceWatershouseCoopers. I never expected to live in California but you never know where life will take you. I found a dance studio close to where I lived in CA. Every day after work I would drive right to the Sunnyvale Starlight dance studio to take lessons.

In 2008 I was very fortunate and thankful to have meet Peter Valentini at a New Year’s weekend in Palm Springs. I was living in the Bay Area and Peter lived in San Diego. We spent a lot of time on Southwest airlines traveling back and forth for a year. In January 2000, with family and a few friends, we were married in La Jolla. These last 15 years have been so special.

I heard about San Diego Smooth Dancers while taking a class at Patty Wells Studio. Shortly afterwards we joined and I am thankful to have found all of you. It has been so rewarding to be a member and to have made so many nice friends.

Peter and I have enjoyed traveling, taking cruises and visiting Santa Fe, New Mexico. Collecting Native American Art is a hobby of mine. Besides my love of dancing, I like to read and do volunteer work. I have been on the Board of Directors of our condo and served as treasurer, member and treasurer of a non-profit organization Soroptimist and treasurer of a political organization.

Thank you to the members of San Diego Smooth Dancers for electing me to be your Queen/ Representative/Ambassador for 2016. I am honored and look forward to the coming year.

-Queen-elect Alberta Valentini



Many of our NSD members who attended the 2015 Convention will remember Frank Lacson and Jennifer Fan. Frank was one of San Diego’s hired dance escorts for the convention, and he worked tirelessly to keep the ladies happy and dancing out on the floor. Of course Jennifer did her part, too, since no man can keep the other ladies out on the floor without the full support and blessing of his own first lady!

Many of us in San Diego received great feedback about the skillful and conscientious way Frank fulfilled his role as a dance escort. A number of us also had the opportunity to chat with Frank and Jennifer between numbers, and we were all pleased to get to know such a friendly and outgoing couple. What could we do but invite them to become members of our own chapter—before another chapter signed them up! We invited them, and they accepted, and in November we happily voted Frank and Jennifer in as new chapter members. They have already become quite involved in San Diego chapter events and activities, and it is a pleasure for us to welcome them to NSD. Next time you run into Frank and Jennifer at a club event, please be sure to spend a moment getting to know our newest members, and take a few spins around the dance floor with them. Welcome aboard, Frank and Jennifer!

Bakersfield Chapter

It seems like the Thanksgiving Holiday just flew by us, and now with Christmas not far behind, I found I got caught up in trying to get some Christmas shopping accomplished and almost forgot the Dance Whispers was due in a few days!

I hope that all of you had a wonderful Thanksgiving and you are now ready for more celebrating!

Coming up this month our chapter Christmas dance; with the theme a "Penguin Winter Wonderland". This dance will be chaired by Barbara Norcross and she has gathered a wonderful committee together. The dance will be held on Saturday, December 12, because of the Christmas holiday. It will be at the Riverlakes Community Center, 3825 Riverlakes Dr. from 6:45-9:45pm. Members are free, couples \$25 and singles \$15. The committee has chosen Black and White as the official attire for the evening. There will be a light buffet and lots of dancing, so please plan on joining us for this great dance.

Following our monthly dance we will be celebrating New Years Eve at our annual New Year's Eve Ball. This dance is held at the Bakersfield Woman's Club, 2030 18th st. The date is Thursday, December 31st and it starts at 6:30pm when the doors open. Tickets are on sale now at \$50.00 per person, which includes a delicious buffet! A wine bar with fine wines will be available and wine tickets can be purchased for \$4.00 each at the door. There will be a spotlight dance performed by Paul and Irene Leung. For information or tickets contact JoAnn Georgio with the Bakersfield Chapter. Reservations are required by December 21, 2015. Please plan on being there to help us ring in the New Year!

Following our New Year's Eve dance will be our annual

edited by Dorothy Vaughan



Presidents' Ball held every January, honoring our past and present presidents! This is always a delightful dance and something to look forward to.

Coming up in March on the 18, 19, and 20th of 2016 is our "Weekend at the Awards", and it's shaping up to be a great weekend and one you will not want to miss! The weekend package is only \$149 per person.

Mail your reservations to JoAnn Georgio, 14035 Rosedale Hwy. #10. More details to follow as the event gets closer!

Our November dance "Let's Have Tea", was absolutely delightful! Ladies were asked to wear a fascinator and gentlemen were dressed to impress. A contest for the prettiest fascinator was held and Barbara Norcross won, hands down!

Jane Cuellar chaired this dance and it was so much fun! Little tea sandwiches and desserts were served along with hot tea! Each table was set up with its own little tea set, our music

man was Rich Gonzalez and all in all everyone had a good time.

I hope this newsletter finds everyone happy and healthy and ready for the months ahead!



(Left) Barbara Norcross is congratulated by Queen Susan Salvucci for winning the top prize for her fascinator at the November dance.



Golden Gate Chapter

edited by Gabrielle von Stephens



of our raffles and it was won by one of Patrick's clients in Sonoma who had bought several raffle tickets.



Finally a vacation, visiting my daughter and grandchildren in Germany was a special event for me, as I had not been there for 4 years. My granddaughter Jenny had grown to 6 feet tall with shoe size 12. Well now she can wear my shoes in addition to my clothes. We celebrated my sweet daughter's birthday and visited some of my favorite places from my childhood and school days. I met Patrick in Venice 5 days later and we embarked on a Mediterranean cruise for 12 days visiting Italy, Croatia, Monaco, Sicily, France and Spain. It was the trip of a lifetime. Our favorite place by far was Cotor in Montevideo, followed by Cinque Terre in Italy. Incredible weather all 12 days with calm seas and sunshine daily.



Lots went on in our Golden Gate family during our absence and here are the reports I received from our members. We have a new member to welcome, Trevor Robinson, the brother of none other than the dynamo from San Fernando chapter, Joan Robinson. Welcome Trevor to our Golden Gate chapter family. Please promise to keep things secret from your sister about our preparations for our upcoming convention in 2017.

Vera Harvey reported that we had a fabulous dance with a great lesson by Igor and Nadia Tillinin, with lots of instructions on technique, followed by a fun and energetic Sunday dance during which we raffled off the fantastic jeweled Christmas tree, created by our oh so talented Patrick Jude. It started out as a traffic cone and became a magical jeweled creation with the help of the unwanted jewelry of many of our members. We took in the most money of any

Then there was the 80th Birthday celebration for Joe Malta, an amazing bash given him by his wife Elena of 57 plus years of marriage. Joe was born on the East side of Detroit and after graduating from high school he worked at Chrysler driving new cars off the assembly line every 15 minutes. "No wonder he thinks about adding a new car to his collection every 15 minutes", his son exclaims. Joe joined the Navy in 1955, then worked delivering cottage cheese in downtown SF and the Tenderloin. After having an accident with no health insurance, he decided to get his real estate license for a more steady income. Now 53 years later he has a very successful family operated real estate business and the ability to make his dream of a new car every 15 minutes come true.

We are looking forward to our next Sunday dance, coming up on December 13th at our usual place and our New Years eve dance on December 30st at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Foster City with special room rates for those of you coming from out of town.

As always, dance first, thinking can wait.



Visalia Smooth Dancers Anniversary Dance

By Shane and Myra Nielsen

We would like first of all to thank you for coming to our 40th Anniversary Dance. This could not have been a success without your support. We received numerous compliments from our members as well as our guests. It was indeed a special evening as our theme suggested, “Magical Moments in Ballroom Dancing.” We also acknowledged our Life Time Members for the support that they have given to our club for the past 40 years.

The attendance was excellent, most of the VSD members showed up along with a large number of guests. A few guests were first timers and they said that they really enjoyed the dance. And of course, everyone was pleased with the meal. All of these were made with love and dedication by our very own members, Linda and Johnny Gutierrez and Margo. Shane and I ordered a special cake for the event, with our Chapter Queen Debbie cutting the first slice that everyone enjoyed. We even had several gluten free cupcakes.

Special and emotional compliments were also received for our professional entertainment. Tom Hicks and his partner Yvonne were awesome. They danced Viennese Waltz, contemporary Foxtrot and Waltz. It was a treat to have Greg Uichanco as our music person, all night we enjoyed the good selection of music he played for us.

Overall, it was a fun-filled occasion. Our members as well



Tom Hicks and his partner Yvonne performed a Viennese Waltz, contemporary Foxtrot and Waltz at the Anniversary Dance.

as all the guests enjoyed the night of dancing and friendship. Much of the credit goes to the committee that helped us prepare and get ready for the dance.

Thank you all for coming, and we will see you at our next

dance.

Just What the Dr. Ordered

by Cheryl Levitan

On November 21st, the Exeter Memorial building was transformed into the “Feel Good Medical Group”, complete with a Dr’s office, humorous dance-related medication bottles, and prescriptions to treat dance “ails”. Despite the change of date, this social broke all previous records with more than 80 dancers in attendance.

Instructor Franco Peraza from Fresno taught an excellent Rumba lesson complete with helpful styling hints and later led a ChaCha line dance. The committee chairs were Drs. Dean Levitan and Jaime Aguet, with nurses Cheryl Levitan and June Aguet following Dr’s orders (what?!).

Much thanks to publicity chair Jim Renfroe for having the dance advertised (complete with a vintage photo of Vince in the Times Delta!) and to MC Dean Levitan for “beating the bushes” to convince a number of new guests to attend the dance...many of whom were his patients!

Although the decorations were the talk of the evening, thanks must go to the committee working behind the scenes to help decorate, refill water, prepare the potluck for serving, and then clearing, washing all the dishes, and cleaning up the decorations after all the attendees went home. Thank you to Tim Inouye and Garry and Wendy Paden for helping Cheryl and Dean Levitan and June Aguet make chucks pads, urinals, emesis basins, and the like actually resemble a dance theme. Jaime Aguet and Mark Martinez pulled the tough job of checking in the hoard of dancers at the door and making sense of the cash box. Adelle Martinez, Sallie Holden, and Garry and Wendy Paden ran the kitchen and water to keep the crowd fed and watered.

Thank you one and all for helping Visalia Smooth Dancers sponsor one of its most successful social dances!

The Visalia Smooth Dancers are proud to announce our

2016 Queen-Elect Wendy Storey! We look forward to having Wendy represent our chapter. Her coronation will take place in May at the Exeter Memorial Building, more information to come.



2016 Queen-elect Wendy Storey

Fresno Chapter

edited by Linda Bennett



Steve Moore was our host for the October Dance, "Nuts to You".

October. In October Steve Moore hosted "Nuts to You." Sharon Crisp played music and Kathy Page and Guy Ashby taught Argentine Tango. The decorations and door prizes were pistachios provided by Steve. Hartune Neffian, who transferred his membership from the Visalia chapter, was introduced as our newest member.



The centerpiece for the November "Think and be Thankful" Dance.

November. Jim Escobar hosted

"Think and be Thankful" in November with help from Nancy Cargill and Peggy Henderson. Dan Goss taught an East Coast Swing lesson, and David Morgan played music.



The Fresno Chapter group shot from the November "Think and be Thankful" dance.

December. Our Christmas party will be on December 13, 2015, the second Sunday of the month this year. The Board will host and the dinner will be catered by Chuck's Barbeque. We will have a champagne reception at 6:00 and Dinner at 6:30. Entertainment will be by Alex Ortiz and Sophia Valasquez, and Sharon Crisp will play Christmas music for your dancing pleasure. This is our annual semi-formal Christmas event, and is by reservation only. Reservations must be received by December 8. The cost is \$25 for members and \$30 for guests.

January. Carla Hartunian will host our January event on January 17, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. The theme will be "Winter Dancing in the Cold January Nights". Franco Peraza will teach a Foxtrot lesson.



Steve and Shirley Pietrzyk

Member Highlights: It was great to see Steve and Shirley Pietrzyk at our October dance, and they have graciously agreed to briefly talk about their recent travels! For those of you who

don't know or haven't met Steve and Shirley, they drive from Atwater to join our monthly events. They have been members since the 1980s, almost from the beginning of the Fresno chapter. Shirley has the lovely British accent; in fact, Steve and Shirley spent several weeks beginning in May cruising around the English Coast and visiting Shirley's hometown in England. One of the side trips while on their cruise was to St. Andrews Golf Course in Scotland, the country where golf was first played over 600 years ago! Steve and Shirley most recently returned from a cruise through the Panama Canal. It all sounds wonderful! Welcome Home! We're glad you're back with us!



Queen Lynn Sanders reports on the building project that has been taking all of her time:

"In case you've wondered what happened to me since convention, I've been totally tied up, first with getting a contractor and replacing the roof on our mobile home. And then the DIY replacement of our ratty 25-year old metal shed. The easy part (though it seemed

hard at the time) was taking it down and getting rid of it. Thank goodness for my good friend, Bob, who should have warned me that I chose the Taj Mahal of sheds to replace it. He got stuck with building it with only me for help, luckily he has the patience of a saint and actually likes building things. Construction started October 18th and it's now almost finished with some final touches still to go. I used up every bit of my vacation and comp time and even a little sick time (ssh!). I'm gradually getting back to normal and my sister even made me a commemorative T-shirt."

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All third-Sunday dances are at the Clovis Senior Center, 850 4th Street, Clovis, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. Cost is \$5 for members and \$10 for guests. See www.fresnosmoothdancers.org for flyers. We would love to see you there!!

Fresno Smooth Dancers presents
Christmas Dinner Dance
and
Installation of Officers
Sunday, December 13, 2015



Champagne Reception	6:00
Catered Holiday Dinner	6:30
Dancing and Entertainment	7:30
Farewell	10:00

Christmas Toy Drive

For students at King Elementary School
Please bring an unwrapped gift for ages 5-12

Palomar Chapter

edited by Debbie Kincaid and Don Hubbard



Lots of SPOOKY fun was had at our October Social! We had a nice Lasagna & Salad buffet put together by our hosts/hostesses, Ann Mauro, Bobbi Selvig, Karen Barcinella, Peter Chang & Debbie Kincaid. Plus festive table centerpieces provided by Karen Barcinella. Of course we had our annual costume contest! Winning costumes are pictured below. We always enjoy our dance lessons provided by James & Irina Friedhof.



(Left) Men's First Place Winner, George Mozes as Tweedle Dee! With him is our very own Queen of Hearts Miriam Mozes. Duane & Donna Thornton join in the fun as hippies!

(Right) Women's First Place Winner, Antonia Quinene along with Netty Quinene & The Bee Keeper Jesus Quinene

Palomar NSD's November, Holiday Social ended 2015's Socials with flying colors. Social Chair Antonia Quinene and Husband Jesus organized a wonderful party,

which began with an excellent catered meal by 'Ciaos' of Vista. "We had plenty of help." Said Antonia. "Many members helped set up, headed by Peter and Marsha Hanson. Peter was a great MC, and DJ Len Lee kept the Music flowing.



"Most Improved Dancers 2015" Penny Elliott & Frank Lombardi.

Year end awards were presented, giving special recognition to the "Most Improved Dancers of 2015". The most improved lady's award went to Penny Elliott, the most improved gentleman's award to Frank Lombardi. Both were cited for not only their improved dancing but also for

the assistance they continually offer other students at the Palomar Smooth Dancers sponsored Monday night lessons.



Performing Couples L-R: Donna & Duane Thornton, Peggy & Len Lee, Penny Elliott & Don Hubbard, Queen Geri & Fred Deutsch and Marsha & Peter Hanson.

Besides plenty of dancing to great holiday music, a 'Showcase' was performed by Palomar members. Three Star NSD Champions, Donna and Duane Thornton led off with a beautiful foxtrot with their flawless technique. All noticed Donna's beautiful yellow gown. Queen Geri Deutsch and husband Fred followed with a well-choreographed and graceful waltz. Bakersfield 2015 East Coast Swing Champions Don Hubbard and Penny Elliott gave their version of the ECS, which included a few laughs. Two Star NSD Champions Len and Peggy Lee presented their skillful routine of the American waltz. The 'Showtime' ended on a high note as two times NSD California State Champions Peter and Marsha Hanson displayed an elegant tango. The audience noticed that Marsha has retained her dancer's flexibility as Peter led her through some skillful dips. Appreciation gifts were presented to all of the performers by former Queens Debbie Kincaid and Darleen Drury. What a night!



We have been fortunate to have several new members over the past months. This month we would like to feature new members Tom and Ann Mauro!

Tom and Ann Mauro joined PSD in September. Tom moved to Carlsbad from the Midwest in 2007 after retiring from Cargill Investor Services as Vice President of Corporate Development. Ann is a California native and is a retired college dean of Instructional Technology Systems. They met courtesy of Match.com in 2012 and married 11/2/2013. While Tom is very new to ballroom dancing, Ann has been dancing all her life and ballroom dancing since 1997. To balance the equation, Tom is helping Ann to learn to play golf. They are both making steady progress!!

As you all know our NSD world-traveling cruise ship dance instructors, Glenn Thompson (Aka. Leonardo de Glenno) and Carol Milne (Aka. Carolina de Oceanside) have been cruising their hearts out! Some Palomar Smooth Dancers, pictured below, joined them on a recent Mexican Riviera Cruise. Glenn said, "Our next cruise takes us on a 15 day trip around the Hawaiian Islands. We plan on teaching Rumba, Cha Cha, East Coast Swing, Jitterbug, Waltz & Salsa!"



L-R: Darlene Drury, Duane & Donna Thornton, Glenn Thompson, Carol Milne, Carol's friend and Jane Smithers

Puttin' on the Ritz



Coronation of Queen Elect Marion Scholtz

Saturday January 30, 2016

The Glendale Hilton Hotel 100 W. Glenoaks Blvd.

Glendale, CA 91202 818/956/5466 LANSO

Hospitality 2:30 pm Presidential Suite

Reception 6pm, Dinner 7pm

Presentation of Queens 6:30Pm

Dinner and Dance \$65 Black Tie Optional

Breakfast for two included with room.

NSD rate \$125- Self Parking \$10

Please Detach and Mail. RSVP By Jan 15, 2016 to:
Sandy Wells 6251 W. 78th St. Los Angeles, CA 90045
Make checks payable to LA NSD Email SSticco@ca.rr.com

Names _____ Chapter _____

Address _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Dinner Choice: Chicken ___ Fish ___ Vegetarian ___ Dinners @\$65 ___

Queen's Breakfast included with room rental

Golden Gate Smooth Dancers, Inc.

Proudly Presents Our New Year's Eve Party

Wednesday, December 30, 2015



Crowne Plaza Hotel
1221 Chess Drive
Foster City, California
650.570.5700

Room Rate \$129.00 Plus Tax, Booking Code (FPD)

Last Day for Room Reservation is 12/16/2015

No Host Bar

Cocktail Reception: 6:00 PM

Dancing: 6:30 PM

Dinner: 7:30 PM

Dancing: 8:30 PM to 11:30 PM



To Make Dinner Dance Reservations: Please make check payable to "Golden Gate Smooth Dancers, Inc.", \$75.00 per person and mail **before December 15, 2015**, the stub below with the following information to Liz Talmadge, 759 Grand Avenue, South San Francisco, CA 94080 (telephone 415-265-7063):

Please Check Choice of Entrée and complete the following information and mail to Liz Talmadge to reserve your tickets for the New Year's Eve Dinner/Dance:

___ New York Steak NAME: _____
___ Grilled Mahi Mahi ADDRESS: _____
___ Vegetarian Wellington CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

Wlad Gites, President